

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

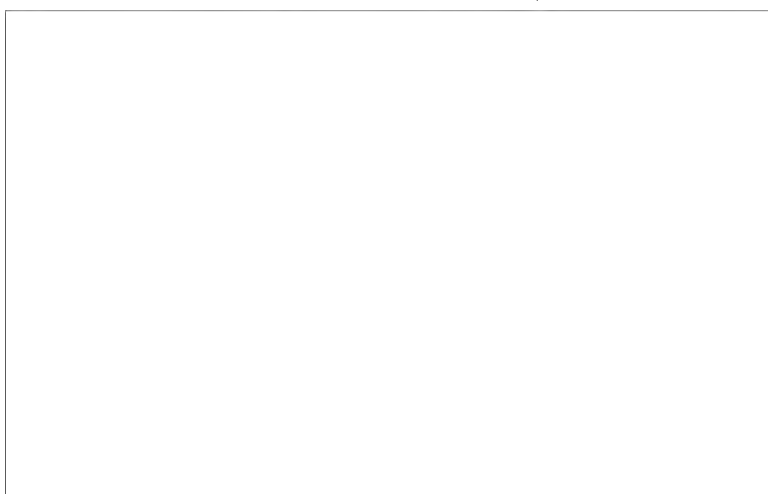
ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

15 AUGUST 1963

~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Cuba-USSR

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c. Apparently the demand for space on the return to the USSR is running ahead of the capacity of the two Soviet passenger ships which make regularly scheduled runs.

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d. In addition to returning Soviet personnel, there are at this season dependents going back to school in the USSR.



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2. Cuba - Communist bloc

a. The Cubans are having their troubles staying out of the Sino-Soviet dispute.

b. They have been invited to send a delegation to attend the festivities next month marking the birthday (9 September) of the North Korean regime.

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3. South Vietnam

a. It took more pressure from Ambassador Nolting during their final meeting yesterday to get Diem to issue any statement at all reaffirming his government's policy towards the Buddhists.

b. The statement seems to do this well enough and, implicitly at least, to rebuke Mme. Nhu, but it takes the form of an answer to a question from Marguerite Higgins for publication in today's Herald Tribune. Thus it could be disavowed if need be, and few Vietnamese are likely to be aware of it anyway.

c. Meanwhile, tension mounts in Hue following yesterday's forcible action by government troops.

d. More and more Buddhist monks and nuns are volunteering to sacrifice themselves, and, we understand, the Buddhist hierarchy is becoming more inclined to allow them to do so.

e. There was another incident of self-sacrifice this morning.

4. Brazzaville

a. With French troops holding the lid on, the situation quieted down in Brazzaville yesterday.

b. They may be put to the test today, however, as leftist agitators and workers, surprised at the extent to which they have already rocked the regime, are now demanding that Youlou go or die.

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NOTES

A. USSR - Communist China Not wanting to rock the boat, the Soviets have been only mildly critical about our underground test on Tuesday. The Chinese, though, call the test a "merciless mockery of those who bragged the treaty would ease the nuclear arms race."

B. Cuba

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C. Cuba - US students Press reports out of Havana say the US students who had been scheduled to leave today for home via Prague have now been told their flight has been postponed until next Wednesday. Aircraft mechanical trouble is given as the reason for this, the fourth postponement.

D. Vietnam Hanoi, viewing with delight the present unpopularity of the Diem government, is mounting a major effort to enlist foreign backing for the Viet Cong. Offices for this purpose already have been set up in Algiers, Cairo, Havana and possibly elsewhere outside the Bloc.

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(Cont'd)

- E. South Korea Ambassador Berger has "assurances" direct from Chairman Pak that Kim Chong-pil will not be returning to Korea before the October elections.
- F. East Africa Negotiations toward federation of Kenya, Tanganyika, Uganda, and Zanzibar have stalled, mainly because of Uganda's fear that it would become a junior partner to its more populous and larger neighbors. Tanganyika's President Nyerere and Kenya's Prime Minister Kenyatta are determined to federate by December in any case, in the belief that Uganda will have to join them eventually.

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DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST



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